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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Nils Virving

International Application No.:  
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For: REFINING ELEMENT

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: Examiner: Not Yet  
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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to initiation of the prosecution of the above-identified pending U.S. patent application, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.